



Bolton Wanderers



**BOLTON
WANDERERS**

1980

1981

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OFFICIAL

TOKEN

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY, 27th DECEMBER 1980 KICK-OFF 3.00p.m.

v BLACKBURN ROVERS

PRICE 30p



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F.A. Cup Finalists:
1894, 1904, 1953

Second Division
Champions: 1908-9, 1977-8

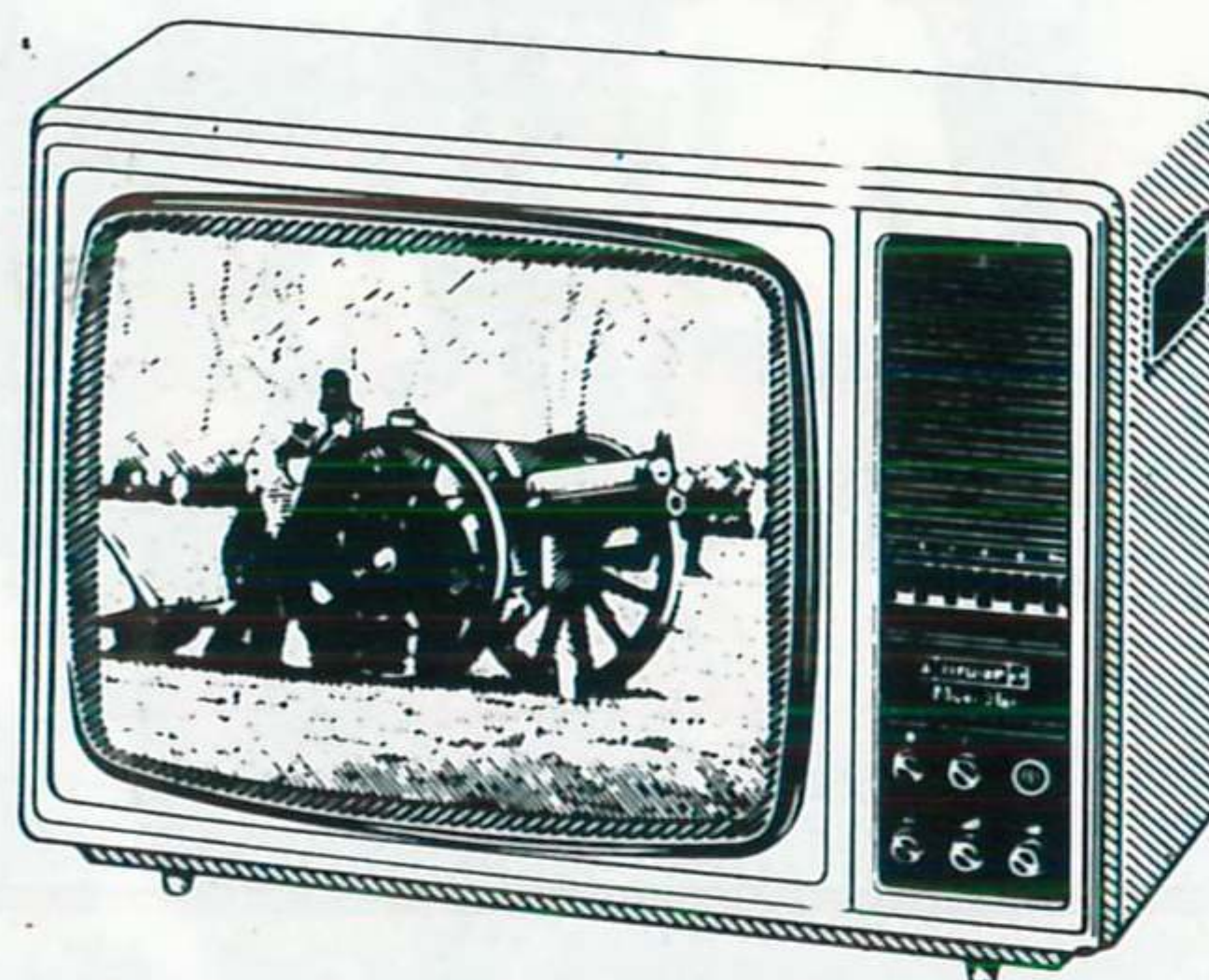
Third Division
Champions: 1972-73



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BRIAN PILLING

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Stan Anderson writes

Next Saturday sees us back on the FA Cup trail with a third round tie against Nottingham Forest at The City Ground.

I don't mind admitting that they don't come much tougher than that. The European Champions and the prospect of Trevor Francis back in form after his long injury lay off is hardly what you'd call an easy tie.

And of course there's the prospect of facing possibly the best goalkeeper in the world at the present time — Peter Shilton.

But having said that, I am not too despondent. Forest are not the team they used to be. They aren't scoring the number of goals this season as in the past and there's no Garry Birtles any more.

And I don't think they are playing as well defensively as they have in recent seasons. I've always said they have had a sound defence, but this season they have been caught out once or twice.

Although it promises to be a difficult task for us, it must be said that our players prefer to play against first division opposition. There is the atmosphere, of course, of playing against a top team and at a big club and of course there is always that likelihood of pulling off a surprise win — turning over a top team.

When you are drawn against a team from a lower division you generally find it difficult to motivate yourself and that can prove quite a problem.

Forest might consider it an easy draw but if they think that they could get complacent. In that respect we'll probably be better prepared for the game than they and if we can catch them cold in the first 20 minutes we could make them struggle.

A lot, of course, depends on how well we play.

The players are looking forward to a break from the League to play in the glamour of the Cup and I can tell you we will be fully geared up for the game.

If we play out of our skins and put our game together as we know we can, then we might well cause an upset.

We've been a bit slack defensively recently and haven't played as well as we know we can. We've been causing problems for ourselves rather than letting the opposition cause us problems.

We seem to lack concentration but on the day we'll be going all out to turn the tables on Forest.

It will be a good match and is far from a foregone conclusion.

Our Visits



Back Row: Mike Rathbone, Derek Fazackerley, Glenn Keeley, Mick Speight, Paul Round, Kevin Stonehouse, Joe Craig.

Middle Row: Mick Heaton (1st Team Coach), Duncan McKenzie, Tony Parkes, Jim Arnold, John Butcher, Simon Garner, Jim Branagan, Jack Cunningham (Physio).

Front Row: Noel Brotherston, Russell Coughlin (Now Carlisle), Howard Kendall, Roger de Vries, Andy Crawford, Brian Morley.

FURTHER PROMOTION IS BLACKBURN'S AIM

by Tony Pullein

Newly-promoted Blackburn made a fabulous start to this season when, unbeaten in their opening nine games which produced 16 points, they seemed well on their way to promotion for the second season in succession. Though they have since faded considerably, they are still well placed to resume their promotion challenge.

Life has been very much an up-and-down affair for Blackburn over the past few years. They were relegated to Division Three in 1979 and, at that point, offered their player-managership to Howard Kendall. He surprised most people by taking Rovers back into the Second Division at the first attempt.

Few people anticipated their explosive start to this season

for the close-season was rife with problems for Mr Kendall. His vastly experienced midfield player Stuart Metcalfe moved on to Carlisle United and, right up until the new season kicked-off, he seemed certain to lose another midfield player — N. Ireland international Noel Brotherston.

Brotherston enjoyed a magnificent introduction to international football in the end-of-season British Championship and he scored the goal that clinched the title for Ireland. It was understandable that he should feel ambitious to play in the First Division, such an opportunity having been denied to him by his first club Tottenham.

Blackburn's wonderful start, and the possibility that he might make the First Division by staying put, seemed to

Blue and Whites

quieten the issue for a while and Brotherston has, in fact, contributed a great deal to the club's success so far.

The only newcomers in the Blackburn side this season were former Sheffield United midfielder Mick Speight — who usually partners Brotherston, Tony Parkes and player-manager Howard Kendall in a four-man midfield — and defender Roger de Vries, signed from Hull City.

Kevin Stonehouse and Duncan McKenzie form their strike-force.

The team, in fact, shows little change from the one that won promotion. John Butcher has now recovered the goalkeeping position from Jim Arnold with Jim Branagan, Derek Fazackerley, Glenn Keeley and Mike Rathbone forming the defence, Roger de Vries now having lost his place at full-back.

One notable absentee has been last season's top scorer Andy Crawford, who hit 23 goals last term. He was injured in one of the opening games of the new campaign and was sidelined for many weeks.

When he took over as manager, Howard Kendall made sweeping changes. He signed Andy Crawford from Derby for £50,000, defender Jim Branagan from Huddersfield and introduced goalkeeper Jim Arnold to League soccer. With his own presence, and the later introduction of Kevin Stonehouse, the Rovers side had a fresh approach.

Yet the new men quickly settled and, apart from their success in the Third Division, they showed their qualities in a run to the fifth round of the F.A. Cup. On the way they knocked out Fulham and Coventry and then took Aston Villa to a replay before going out narrowly 0-1.

Blackburn shot to the top of the Second Division this season with results like this: Cardiff (a) 2-1; Oldham (h) 1-0; Orient (a) 1-1; Shrewsbury (h) 2-0; Derby (a) 2-2; Luton (h) 3-0; Grimsby (h) 2-0; Wrexham (a) 1-0; Q.P.R. (h) 2-1.

They suffered their first defeat at Sheffield Wednesday (1-2) and that triggered off a disappointing run in which they were to win only once in ten League games. The commanding lead they had built up at the top was soon eroded and now they find themselves coming back from behind.

Blackburn made hard work of their League Cup progress. They were held at home to a goalless draw by Huddersfield and then drew the away leg 1-1 to go through on away goals. Gillingham also held them to 0-0 at Ewood Park, but with the addition of extra-time, Blackburn won the return 2-1. They then lost 0-1 at Birmingham in the third round.

Soon they will throw themselves into their F.A. Cup challenge. At the moment they are still keeping envious eyes on the leaders of the Second Division. Given the boost of a few good wins, they could well go into the second-half of the season with a real chance of making it back to the First Division after an absence of 15 years.

JOHN BUTCHER (Goalkeeper). John has been a Blackburn professional since July 1976. He was introduced to the first-team briefly the following season and in 1977/78 he took over as first choice. He lost his place last season but is now back in favour again.

JIM BRANAGAN (Defender). Jim entered League soccer with Oldham in 1974/75 but emigrated to South Africa in 1976. He returned to sign for Huddersfield the following year and was transferred to Blackburn last season.

GLENN KEELEY (Defender). Glenn started with Ipswich and was sold to Newcastle for £70,000 in 1974. Blackburn paid £30,000 for him two years later and he is firmly established for them at centre-back.

DEREK FAZACKERLEY (Defender). Derek served his apprenticeship with the club and made his League bow in 1970/71.

MIKE RATHBONE (Defender). Mike got occasional games in Birmingham's League side but, following his transfer to Rovers in 1979, he has settled down nicely.

HOWARD KENDALL (Midfield). Many of us can still recall Howard as the F.A. Cup final player when he was a late choice for Preston in 1964. He moved on to Everton for £80,000 in 1967 and three years later gained a League Championship medal with the Toffees. He went to Birmingham for £180,000 in 1974, then to Stoke for £45,000 three years later. He took on his first managerial appointment with Blackburn in 1979 and celebrated by taking the club to promotion at the first attempt as their player-manager.

MICK SPEIGHT (Midfield). Mick spent nine years as a first-teamer with Sheffield United, making more than 250 appearances for the Blades. Blackburn signed him for £60,000 this summer.

NOEL BROTHERSTON (Midfield). Noel, who served his apprenticeship with Spurs and who joined Blackburn on a free transfer in 1977, scored nine goals last season and capped a fine season by making his debut for N. Ireland. He played in all three games and scored the goal that gave Ireland the British Championship outright for the first time since 1914. He now has eight caps.

TONY PARKES (Midfield). Tony is a one-club man who has been a Rovers' professional since May 1970.

SIMON GARNER (Forward). Simon is a product of the junior teams and he was top scorer in his first season in the senior side two seasons back.

DUNCAN McKENZIE (Forward). Duncan needs little introduction for he made his name with Nottingham Forest and was in line for an England place at the time. After hitting 28 goals for Forest in 1973/74, he was transferred to Leeds for £250,000. In 1976 he made a £200,000 move to Belgian club Anderlecht but returned to English football within months when Everton signed him for £200,000. Duncan joined Chelsea for £165,000 in 1978 but, after making only 15 League appearances for them, he moved to Blackburn for £100,000. Duncan was second-highest scorer with 16 last season.

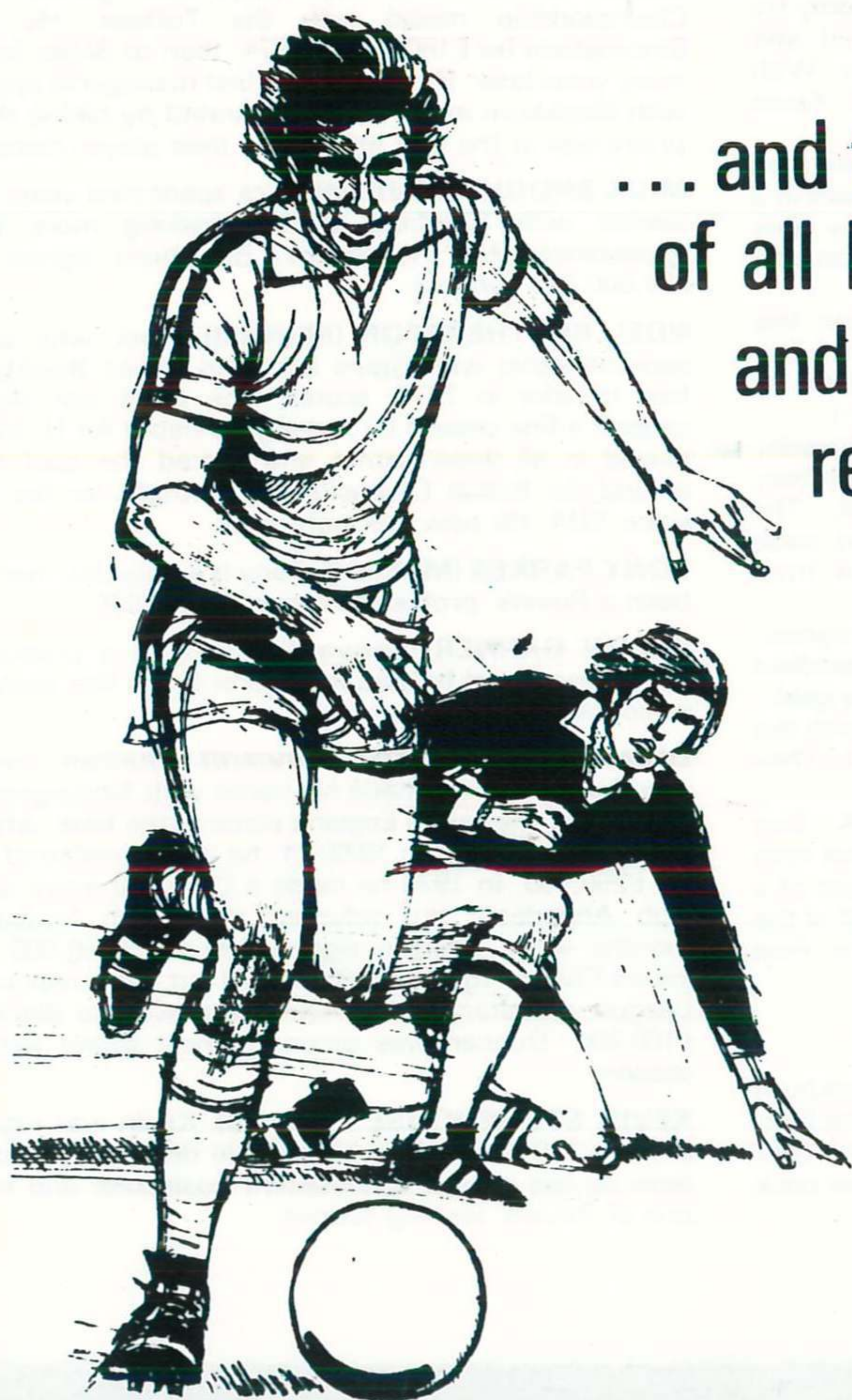
KEVIN STONEHOUSE (Forward). Kevin was signed from Shildon F.C. and made his League debut last season. This term he has proved a consistent goalscorer and he is now one of Rovers' leading scorers.

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Club Scene

Wanderers' physio Jim Headrige is in great demand in local soccer circles.

Following the overwhelming success of his treatment of injury courses over the past months, Jim has been asked to run another of his successful teach-ins.

Jim is the FA's regional lecturer on the treatment of injuries and is a staff lecturer at the Lilleshall National Sports Centre. Those people attending Jim's part-time courses, which are held here at Burnden Park get the same instruction as those who attend the Lilleshall lectures.

The latest course begins on Thursday, January 8 and will cover the basic principles of anatomy, physiology, treatment techniques and fitness checks.

The course will be of immense value to schoolteachers, youth workers and anyone connected with local soccer clubs.

Anyone wishing to attend should contact Jim here at the club.

A familiar face and voice which will be missing from Burnden Park after today's game is that of Mrs Beatrice Critchley, secretary and receptionist here at the club.

Beatrice, who has been on the reception desk here at Burnden for more than five years is leaving her home in Bromley Cross to live in Paignton, Devon.

Our fondest wishes go with Beatrice and we wish her well in the future.

Burnden Park is now fully geared up to coping with a fierce winter. The new undersoil heating system is fully operational and ticking over quite nicely.

For those of you who take notice of the changes around the ground, the new construction at the corner of the Great Lever end of the Burnden Stand is the boiler house for the heating, with its newly-erected chimney.



JUNIOR WHITE NEWS

I hope that all of you had an enjoyable Christmas, getting all the presents you hoped for. For one young lad the presents are still coming, that's our mascot for today, Stephen Hennessey from Lostock, who will be leading the team out.

Monday 12th January is a date to put in your diaries, when at 6.30pm in the executive club, we shall be holding our first meeting of the New Year. It will take the form of a International Night with Tony Dunne, Brian Kidd and David Hoggan, bringing along shirts medals and match balls, you will also be able to vote for your Player of the Year, with voting going on till April when we shall present a trophy to the player concerned. So all of you "Junior Whites" come along on the 12th January, parents welcome, it's your club let's make it the best. Happy New Year to all Members.

Roy Cavanagh

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NEVER ON A SUNDAY?

The alarming decline in attendance figures has prompted some football club administrators to once again look into the possibility of staging their League and cup games on a Sunday.

You might well recollect that football first took up the clarion call for Sunday soccer after it had been practically forced upon the game during the power crisis of 1973-74. At the time Britain was reduced to a three day working week with many fans allotted Saturday as one of their working days.

To play on a Sunday was then in the national interest, although the Lord's Day Observance Society still went stoutly on the warpath.

The very first game was staged by Cambridge United. They kicked off against Oldham Athletic at 11.00 am on January 6th, in a 3rd Round F.A. Cup match.

Three more ties followed that same afternoon, and for each the turnout bettered all expectations, with a total attendance of 84,135.

Bolton Wanderers were highly delighted with the 39,138 — who passed through the turnstiles for their game against Stoke City, a side a long way short of being classed as glittering box-office material. While Nottingham Forest's clash with Bristol Rovers attracted 23,000 and little Cambridge almost doubled their average gate.

Although many people were appalled by football's incursion into the Sabbath, it was evident from the public's response, that they found the new experience favourable. The success of the Cup matches soon prompted calls for the Football League to follow and although their response was not immediate, on the 13th of January the Management Committee opened the door to Sunday League matches. There had been just one dissenting voice — that of Burnley chairman Bob Lord.

Once again the fans flocked to the grounds and the attendances at all 12 matches played on Sunday 20th January were above average.

It was then not surprising that a move to make Sunday football a permanent thing began to gather momentum, and Bob Martin the chairman of Bradford City wrote to the then Minister responsible for Sport, Eldon Griffiths and to the Football League asking for the experiment to be extended beyond the emergency.

Mr. Griffiths forecast that Parliament "would sooner or later have to consider the question of either reforming or change the present law" regarding Sunday observance, in the light of popular reaction which "appeared to be favourable."

But the attempt to change the laws on Sunday entertainments foundered by 103 votes to 87 in the Commons and the so called erosion into the British Sunday was halted in its tracks.

Whatever your views are on Sunday football it must seem quite illogical that the politicians should vote in favour of an Act that was introduced in 1780, carrying laws that can not be enforced and which can be evaded by substitution.

The Sunday Observance Act has not prevented professional cricket, rugby, tennis, horse jumping or motor sports from being staged on a Sunday, and some sensible reform to the laws is obviously required to end the legal anomaly.

Whether football would choose to swing to Sunday is doubtful. For the smaller clubs it might provide the obvious answer to their falling gates, but for the bigger clubs I believe Saturday will remain the big day.

COLIN BENSON

Van Gool finds it hard to adjust

ROGER VAN GOOL stepped into English football last March with high hopes of enhancing his already formidable reputation as a winger of international class.

Capped by Belgium 12 times, he had moved from Bruges to Cologne in a Belgium record transfer deal costing £200,000 and had scored 28 goals in 94 Bundesliga games before joining Coventry City last February.

However since his debut game for the Sky Blues against West Bromwich Albion, the little Belgian winger has been unable to command a regular first team position and up till November this year had made just over a handful of appearances.

Van Gool's problems emphasise the divide between the English game and that played on the continent.

"It has been more difficult than I thought it would be," he admits, a situation which has somewhat surprised him because as he says: "Before I came over here I had played maybe 10-15 games for continental teams against English clubs and I always played well, so I naturally thought that my style would be suited to your game.

"But I have experienced more problems than I expected and have not been able to reproduce the standard I am capable of. It is simply another game over here, continental football and English football are completely different."

What then is the most

noticeable difference between the two styles? The answer is immediate; "It is the speed," exclaims the bearded Belgian.

"I can handle the physical contact because although it might not be harder in



Kevin Keegan — finding it difficult to re-adjust

Germany, their tackling is much more incorrect and so after four years of that there is no problem here.

SPEED

"But the speed of the game is unbelievable. On the continent we build up the play more from every position in the team, we keep the ball and play the ball. Here the ball must go as quickly as possible from one goalmouth to the other and it is very difficult to get to grips with that.

"In Europe the people like nice things, control, passing, flicks and tricks, but here they just want to see the ball played into the area for the forwards to scrap over, and for a midfield player this can be very difficult because you are being cut out of the game so much".

"If you are a defender it is much easier because nearly always the ball is coming to you in the air and as long as it is cleared long up the field for the forwards to fight for it, that is okay, they have done their job.

"On the continent that would not be accepted. They expect defenders to clear accurately to a players feet and if the ball is not played that way then it will simply be knocked back to start again."

Of course you can see the advantages. If

the attackers already have possession when they attempt to strike all they are concerned about is creating the space for the shot.

MIGHT BE

Here with our long ball game into the penalty area, our front men first have the difficult problem of winning the ball, to contend with before they can think of creating a goal chance.

And even if you have an

accomplished central striker like Peter Withe of Aston Villa or Paul Mariner of Ipswich to play with, in the majority of cases they can not control the ball, just hopefully get a touch.

So in effect they do not create too many goal scoring chances they merely produce situations which might create something.

Bearing that in mind, does Roger Van Gool think that the continental game is geared more to attacking creative players, than that performed in the Football League?

"I'm not sure," he says hesitantly. "It is all so different, that people considered good players here might not be rated at all in Germany and it works the other way around also, with continental stars not making any impression here.

TRADITION

"Abroad the fans don't like balls in the air to nobody, with two or three players going in to fight for possession. I think it is a tradition here and it would be very hard to change.

"The happy medium is to adopt a game which combines the best of the continental and English styles. Liverpool and Tottenham have done this. They try to build up from behind with defenders in support.

"Defenders support the attack far more on the continent than they do here because they have more time. If the build up is slower, then it is easier to support with bodies. But if the ball is just hoofed from one goal to the other it is impossible to



Roger Van Gool — amazed at the speed of our game

support. The ball becomes the fastest player on the pitch and there is no way you can run 50-60 yards to support."

Despite the frustrations Van Gool has no regrets. He says quite simply: "I am very happy here, the people are friendly and England is a nice place to live. Of course football is my profession and if you are not doing your job as well as you know you can, then you are a little unhappy.

"But I am glad that I came to Coventry. I still had two years of my contract with Cologne to run, but if I had stayed I would be 32 when it expired and no English club would have wanted me then.

"Whatever happens I know that I have tried because it has always been one of my

ambitions to play here. You see in Europe the Football League and the Bundesliga are considered the two best competitions.

"It is up to me to show everybody that I can play here. I know I am a good player and I still believe in the English game."

Van Gool then made a very pertinent observation as he concluded: "It isn't easy, as Kevin Keegan will no doubt confirm. He has also had his problems settling in with Southampton. He is not playing like he used to, no where near as well as he played in Germany. So if a world class player who was brought up on English football finds it hard to re-adjust when he comes home, it is perhaps not surprising that I am finding it difficult."

MARADONA A SUPER STAR

Leslie Vernon

Last summer, Barcelona offered three million pounds for a footballer! Not because the mighty Spanish club has money to burn, but because they were willing to run up a huge debt in order to obtain the services of the most exciting talent that has emerged in the last decade.

Their target was, of course, the Argentinian "wonder-boy", Diego Maradona. No superlative would be exaggerated to express the phenomenal skills of this stocky little midfielder, whose speed off the mark, ball-control, vision and goalscoring ability, make him perhaps the best footballer in the world today.

The transfer eventually fell through, because the chain-smoking Cesar Luis Menotti, Argentina's national team manager, drew-up a short list of World Cup candidates who were declared "untransferable" to a foreign country by their F.A.

Ironically, two years earlier, Maradona was on the short list to join Sheffield United, but eventually, Harry Haslam's bid was turned down by his club, Argentina Juniors. Imagine Maradona playing in the English Third Division!

HUMBLE ORIGINS

Diego Maradona was born October 30th 1960, one of eight children of a very poor father, a humble origin he is very conscious of. He said: "There is only one thing I really want — that my father doesn't have to work any more. We are a poor family, and he has laboured body and soul for us".

Maradona can afford to be generous, he earns around £120,000 per year. "When I was younger, I had just one pair of trousers, that had to do for Sunday best. Now I can buy clothes every day of the week. Boots are brought to me, and people even pay me to wear them".

Maradona was discovered by a 46-year old bank clerk, Francisco Cornejo. He runs a boys' team in a Buenos Aires suburb, and when he first saw young Diego, he was only nine, but had skill on the ball uncanny for a boy of his age.

DEBUT

At the age of 13, had switched to Argentina Juniors, and ten days before his 16th birthday, he made his debut for the senior team as a substitute against Talleres of Cordoba.

Only four months later, he was named in the national squad against Hungary, and once again, he came on as a substitute, and astonished everyone with the maturity of his football.

Menotti included him in his World Cup '25', but when three players had to drop out, Maradona was one of them. It was a hard decision, but the

team manager didn't think that the 17-year-old boy was ready for the pressures of a World Cup Final tournament.

Since then, Maradona has matured a great deal, and even as a nominal midfielder, he scored 31 goals for his club during the last League season. What does Menotti think of him? "He is the direct heir to all the great Argentina players of the past. You can see something of our old football in his every movement. The youngsters are surprised by his artistry, the older fans see in him a Di Stefano. For me, he recalls a mixture of many of the talents of both Pele and Puskas. But he is not a second one of either. He is Maradona, his own man. I hope he stays that way. That he keeps this same style, maintains his character.



"He is not one of those players who feel that they need their personal hairdresser in the changing rooms. Nor is he always sounding-off to the newspapers. As far as football goes, sometimes he is a bit slow to go and look for the ball, but Pele was the same at his age. This comes with time. Diego has the potential to become the world's No. 1".

But another famous coach,

Juan Carlos Lorenzo, warns of possible pitfalls. "Maradona is only twenty — a dangerous age. He will need all the help he can get from family, friends, and his coaches. Sudden wealth has a habit of producing a lot of instant friends . . ."

I don't think Lorenzo has much to worry about. This boy is a natural footballer, extremely gifted, and with his background, he is not going to fritter his God-given talents away.

After the next World Cup, he will probably come to play in Europe, and in the harsh world of Spanish or Italian football, he will be able to reach his peak. A white Pele? Back to Menotti. "I once said of Maradona, that he reminds me of the young Pele. Everybody twisted my words and said I believed Maradona to be the new Pele. That's not right. This boy is the First Maradona".

ENGLAND'S FUTURE

by John Nolan

ENGLAND'S FUTURE as an international force is dependant on the young men who are developing through the support teams, such as the Under-21's and the 'B' side.

Ron Greenwood makes no bones about it and spells it out quite plainly, when he says: "This game of football belongs to the players, they either play for you or they don't. When you have players of quality and application you have a chance, but they must be eager to learn and work.

"Many a time in your heart of hearts you see youngsters and you think great. But then all your hopes can so easily go down the drain, if they meet the wrong girl or get mixed up with the wrong people. The Southern League is full of them. Failures.

"We are happy with the development of the Under-18 and Under-21 sides, there are some promising lads there and we have established a flow of people coming through. And of course there are always the odd players who develop later and don't make those sides — such as Eric Gates of

Ipswich — yet get through with determination."

England's record since UEFA introduced the Under-21 competition when they dispensed with the old Under-23 age limit in 1976, has been impressive.

The 4-0 drubbing they received in Rumania this season was the first serious set back the side have experienced, and although they have not actually won the Under-21 International championship, they have reached the semi-final stage of both competitions so far organised.

Of course the major object of this team is as a breeding ground for future international players and in this respect our Under-21 team can once more claim to have been fairly fruitful.

Viv Anderson, Peter Barnes, Garry Birtles, Terry Butcher, Laurie Cunningham, Glenn Hoddle, Russell Osman, Kevin Reeves, Bryan Robson, Kenny Sansom, Brian Talbot, Peter Ward, Ray Wilkins and Tony Woodcock have all graduated to full England caps.

The list is impressive, and it is also interesting to note that the balance



Kevin Reeves — he has sampled full international football.

has favoured forwards, with six making the grade, plus four midfielders and four defenders.

Indeed the Under-21 arena has proved quite a launching pad for the young shooting stars of England, with Garth Crooks (v Bulgaria), Peter Ward (v Norway) and Tony Woodcock (v Finland) all hitting hat-tricks in their debut games.

Young Paul Goddard notched twice in his debut game against Norway while other first time scorers have included; Laurie Cunningham (v Scotland), Garry Birtles (v Bulgaria), John Deehan (v Norway), Justin Fashanu (v E. Germany), Bob Hazell (v Denmark), Vince Hilaire (v Bulgaria) and Paul Dyson (v Norway).

The talent is certainly there but as Ron Greenwood has said the problem is developing it through to maturity.

"I have heard the Germans say how bitterly disappointed they have been over some of their youngsters who have not developed because of their lack of application and dedication," says Greenwood, who adds: "The Yugoslavs and the Dutch experience the same disappointments. They have terrific youth players but the continuity does not follow through to the senior squad."

Greenwood is only too well aware that his future and England's future lies in these youngsters' boots. He and his helpers such as Dave Sexton, Bobby Robson, Terry Venables and the rest can only teach, it is up to the pupils to learn and apply themselves.



Garth Crooks — a hat-trick on his debut.

A WINNING POINT

Perhaps one of the most eagerly accepted suggestions to emerge from the football League club chairmens seminar last November, was the proposition to change the existing points system and award three points instead of two for a win.

The thinking is that if the gap between a draw and a win is bigger there will be more incentive for teams to push all the way for victory, instead of being content to sit on a draw. And therefore teams would be encouraged to play attacking rather than defensive football.

Of course there is nothing new in the idea, it has been muted many times and was in fact one of the recommendations made in the recent booklet 'Soccer — The Fight For Survival'. It just so happens that the climate now seems ripe for change and that those inside the domestic football world, appear on the whole, to be genuinely excited by the prospect.

If the necessary amendment is passed — as seems a certainty — when the clubs meet for their Annual General Meeting this summer, it will signal the first change to the points system since it was introduced for the League's first season in 1888.

However, it might interest you to know that the system was not in being when the season kicked off. At the original meeting of the twelve founder member clubs; Accrington, Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers, Burnley, Derby County, Everton, Notts County, Preston North End, Stoke, West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers, it was agreed that the competition would be decided thus: "That the average shall be taken from wins, draws and losses and not from the number of goals scored."

REVOLUTIONARY

That was a messy complicated procedure, but the season was well under way before it was agreed to alter the system. This happened on the 21st November, when the principle of two points for a win and one for a draw was agreed and substituted for the existing procedure.

Yet, remarkable to relate, the change did not go through unopposed. For West Bromwich Albion representative Mr L. Ford was a far sighted man and he favoured a scheme by which clubs would only gain points for a win. A drawn game would yield nothing.

Now that would certainly commit teams to attack and it is significant to note that this vital principle was only just defeated by six votes to four.

Instead the meeting opted for the following terms:

"Averages for the championship shall be taken from wins and draws (and not from the number of goals scored) to be counted as follows: Two points for a win and one for a draw. In the event of two or more clubs equal on points the best goal average to count."

JUSTIFIED

And so the system that was to become the accepted standard for almost every competitive sport run on league lines, was born. Perhaps the fact that it has served the Football League for 92 years without amendment is justification enough of the schemes merit.

But now the winds of change are blowing fresh through the corridors of power. Fear is driving administrators to thoughts of change and perhaps some will benefit the game, and improve its capacity to entertain.

It is nevertheless interesting to note that had the scheme adopting three points for a win, been in existence last season, it would have made no difference at all to the outcome of the Championship, or for that matter to the relegation issues.

But in the Second Division, Chelsea would have rocketed to second place behind Leicester — on goal difference — and would have gained promotion on the strength of their 23 wins, at Birmingham's expense.

Similarly Chesterfield would have gone up from the Third Division in place of Sheffield Wednesday and Hull not Bury would have dropped into the Fourth Division.



The faces of despair and joy in the constant battle for points.

Last seasons key League positions showing their relative standings

USING THE PROPOSED NEW POINTAGE

Division 1

	W	D	Pts	new pts
Liverpool	25	10	60	85
Man Utd.	24	10	58	82
Ipswich	22	9	53	75
Arsenal	18	16	52	70

bottom

Everton	9	17	35	44
Bristol City	9	13	31	40
Derby County	11	8	30	41
Bolton	5	15	25	30

Division 2

Leicester	21	13	55	76
Sunderland	21	12	54	75
Birmingham City	21	11	53	74
Chelsea	23	7	53	76*

bottom

Notts. Cty.	11	15	37	48
Watford	12	13	37	49*
Bristol Rov.	11	13	35	46
Fulham	11	7	29	40
Burnley	6	15	27	33
Charlton	6	10	22	28

Division 3

Grimsby	26	10	62	88
Blackburn	25	9	59	84
Sheff. Wed.	21	16	58	79
Chesterfield	23	11	57	80*

bottom

Hull	12	16	40	52
Bury	16	7	39	55*
Southend	14	10	38	52
Mansfield	10	16	36	46
Wimbledon	10	14	34	44

Division 4

Huddersfield	27	12	66	93
Walsall	23	18	64	87
Newport	27	7	61	88*
Portsmouth	24	12	60	84

* Denotes clubs whose position would have improved

OSVALDO ARDILES

TALKS FOOTBALL



Last week I was talking about the "professional foul" and how we, the players are conscious that we have to do our bit towards making football a better form of entertainment.

The club Chairman had their meeting, which was widely publicised and came out with several good suggestions, but their ideas are not the complete answer, they are just part of the puzzle that we are all striving to complete.

No one can ignore the present situation, we all have our part to play. Everyone, players, coaches, managers, chairman, directors and staff must be aware of the position and if we all did just that little bit more in our own fields, I am sure the present crisis would be not long in passing.

We must all put more back into the game. Players can earn exceptionally good money from the game and they are duty bound to give all they can in return. It does not happen in all cases although I am sure that the majority of professionals give their all.

Directors should be more concerned about the quality of the football their teams play than the results and ease the pressure on the manager so that he can work to that end.

I honestly do not think things are quite so bad as the prophecies of gloom would have us believe, but we must be aware of the changes that have taken place in our society over the past decade or so.

When I was a kid, I went to football and played football all the time. There was not much else to do, in all honesty we did not have the opportunity to do anything else really, but I loved the game and could not play enough.

Now times have changed. The kids are brought up on rations of television, there are lots more organised activities for them to participate in, so no longer do they focus all their attentions on the game of football.

The media must also take some blame for the deterioration in the standing of the game. They delight in highlighting the seamier side of the sport at the expense of the good things.

For example we had a very fine match at Crystal Palace earlier this season which we won 4-3. In the papers the next day I expected to read about the game and the magical football of Glenn Hoddle and the others, but there was not a word about it. All you could read was about the sending-off of Vince Hilaire. The one bad aspect of the game had overshadowed all else.

BENNO

Colin Benson's world of soccer

354215

Australia's coach Rudi Gutendorf, was at the centre of a bust up, after his side had narrowly lost to England 'B' by a single goal at Birmingham.

Gutendorf had just called off a fixture against the Alliance Premier Football League, which was due to be staged at Scarborough because he claimed his players were tired.

The Alliance's angry chairman Jim Thompson retorted that Gutendorf was pulling out because he was scared of losing to the English part timers.

He claimed: "The Australians have made idiots of the Alliance, idiots of our officials and

idiots of the Borough of Scarborough who had laid on a civic reception.

"A whole series of people all over the country had done a lot of work for this game, which was requested by the Australians in the first place. And they had insisted on a guarantee of £1,500."

One can understand the frustration of the Alliance officials who had already been put to some financial expense as well as inconvenience.

So keen were they to do well that they had instructed all their sides involved in the F.A. Cup the Saturday prior, to arrange any possible replays on the Monday, to ensure that all players would be available.

JUNIOR QUIZ TIME

1. How many times have Bolton Wanderers won the F.A. Cup?
2. In which year were Ipswich Town formed?
3. Where was Bob Hatton born?
4. With which club did John McGovern start his career?
5. Who are the 'Saddlers'?
6. Who won the League Championship in 1970-71?
7. Who won the F.A. Cup in 1970-71?
8. Vetch Field is the home of which club?
9. Which club has a bulls head as its emblem?

10. Grimsby beat Everton 2-1 in the League Cup last season. Who scored the Mariners goals?



FUN SPOT

* Name the manager? He played as an amateur for Bishop Auckland before joining Arsenal in 1960. A fine mid-field player, he later moved to Nottingham Forest and then Sheffield United. Coached Hereford and managed Peterborough before taking up his present position with a First Division club.

* Fun Spot — John Barnwell, Wolves.

ANSWERS — 1. four, 2. 1887, 3. Hull, 4. Hartlepool, 5. Walsall, 6. Arsenal, 7. Arsenal, 8. Swansea City, 9. Oxford United, 10. Mike Broll.

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BOLTON RECORD

Part 37 — Season 1928/29

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Division One	Home	Away
Arsenal	1-2	0-2
A. Villa	3-1	5-3
Birmingham	6-2	2-0
Blackburn	0-3	3-1
Burnley	0-1	1-3
Bury	0-1	4-3
Cardiff	1-0	1-1
Derby	3-0	1-2
Everton	2-3	0-3
Huddersfield	1-1	1-4
Leeds	4-1	2-2
Leicester	5-0	1-6
Liverpool	0-0	0-3
Manchester City	1-1	1-5
Manchester United	1-1	1-1
Newcastle	1-0	1-4
Portsmouth	4-2	4-4
Sheffield United	3-1	1-1
Sheffield Wednesday	2-2	0-0
Sunderland	2-2	0-4
West Ham	4-1	0-3

F.A. CUP

Rd. 3	— Oldham (h)	2-0
4	— Liverpool (a)	0-0
4	— Liverpool (h)	5-2
5	— Leicester (a)	2-1
6	— Blackburn (a)	1-1
6	— Blackburn (h)	2-1
SF	— Huddersfield (at Anfield)	3-1
Final	— Portsmouth (at Wembley)	2-0

League goalscorers

Blackmore	30	Gibson	17
McClelland	9	Butler	6
Murphy	4	Vizard	3
Wright	2	Jack (D)	1
Kean	1		

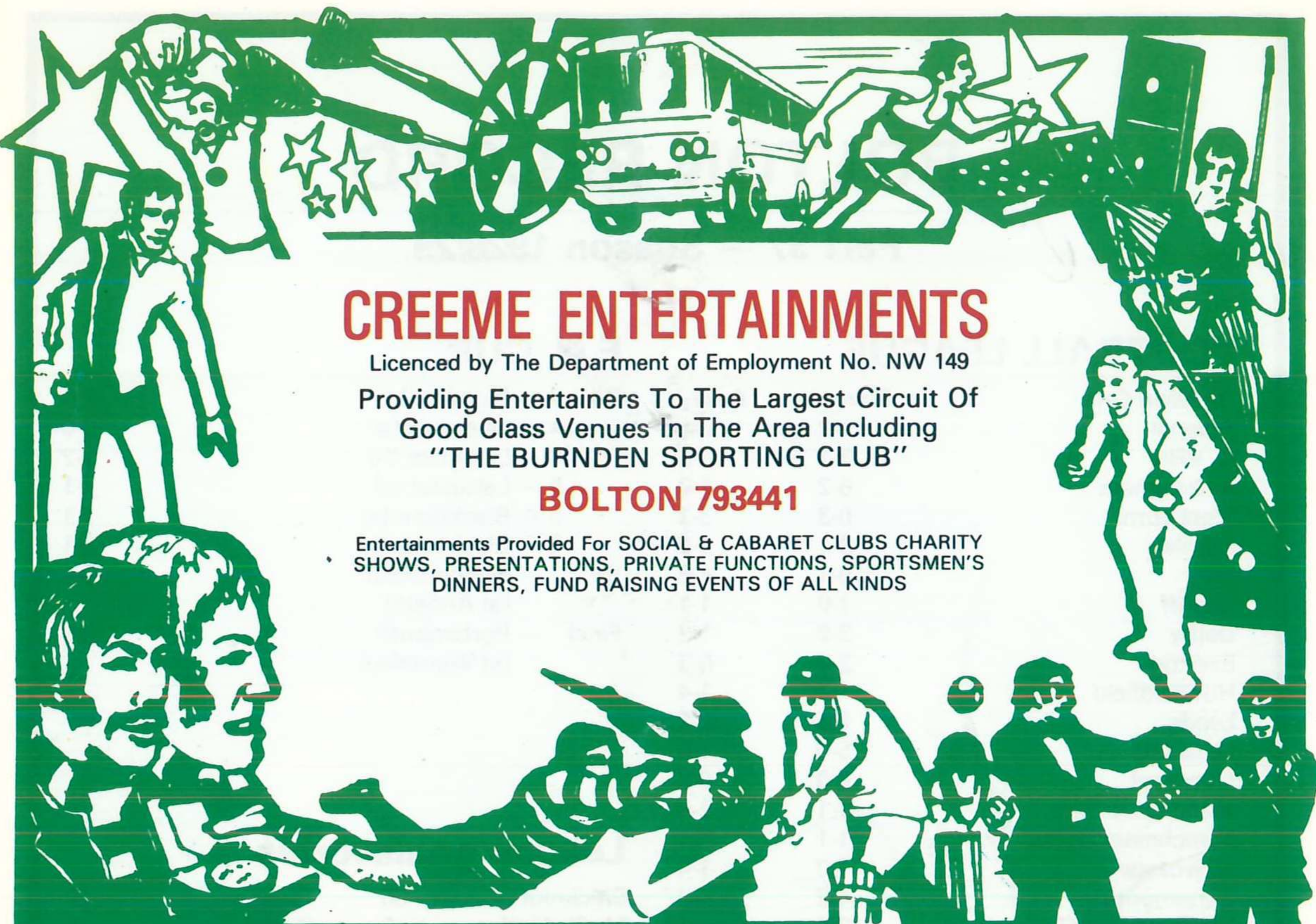
DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheffield Wed.	42	21	10	11	86	62	52
Leicester City	42	21	9	12	96	67	51
Aston Villa	42	23	4	15	98	81	50
Sunderland	42	20	7	15	93	75	47
Liverpool	42	17	12	13	90	64	46
Derby County	42	18	10	14	86	71	46
Blackburn Rovers	42	17	11	14	72	63	45
Manchester City	42	18	9	15	95	86	45
Arsenal	42	16	13	13	77	72	45
Newcastle United	42	19	6	17	70	72	44
Sheffield United	42	15	11	16	86	85	41
Manchester Utd	42	14	13	15	66	76	41
Leeds United	42	16	9	17	71	84	41
Bolton Wanderers	42	14	12	16	73	80	40
Birmingham	42	15	10	17	68	77	40
Huddersfield	42	14	11	17	70	61	39
West Ham United	42	15	9	18	86	96	39
Everton	42	17	4	21	63	75	38
Burnley	42	15	8	19	81	103	38
Portsmouth	42	15	6	21	56	80	36
Bury	42	12	7	23	62	99	31
Cardiff City	42	8	13	21	43	59	29

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

appearances:

Blackmore, H. A.	35	Boston, H. J.	3
Butler, W.	38	Cook, W.	16
Cope, J.W.	6	Finney, A.	32
Gibson, G.B.	40	Gill, J.J.	10
Greenhalgh, H.W.	3	Haworth, R.	40
Jack, D.B.N.	7	Jack, R.R.	1
Jennings, W.	9	Kean, F.W.	32
McClelland, J.	39	Murphy, L.	19
Nuttall, H.	27	Pym, R.H.	32
Round, J.H.	13	Seddon, J.	26
Thornborough, E.H.	18	Vizard, E.T.	7
Wagstaffe, J.T.	1	Wright, W.B.	8



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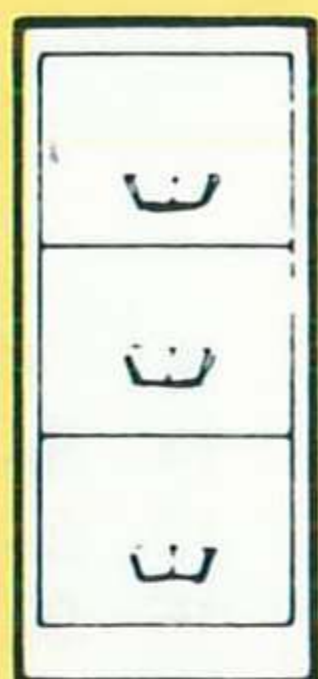
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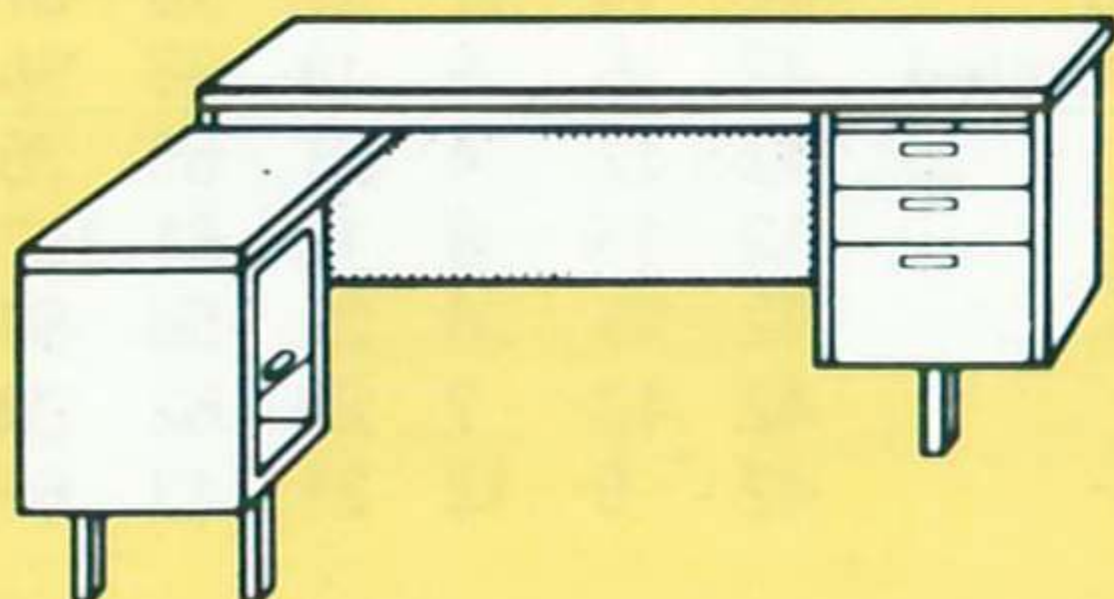
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ACTION

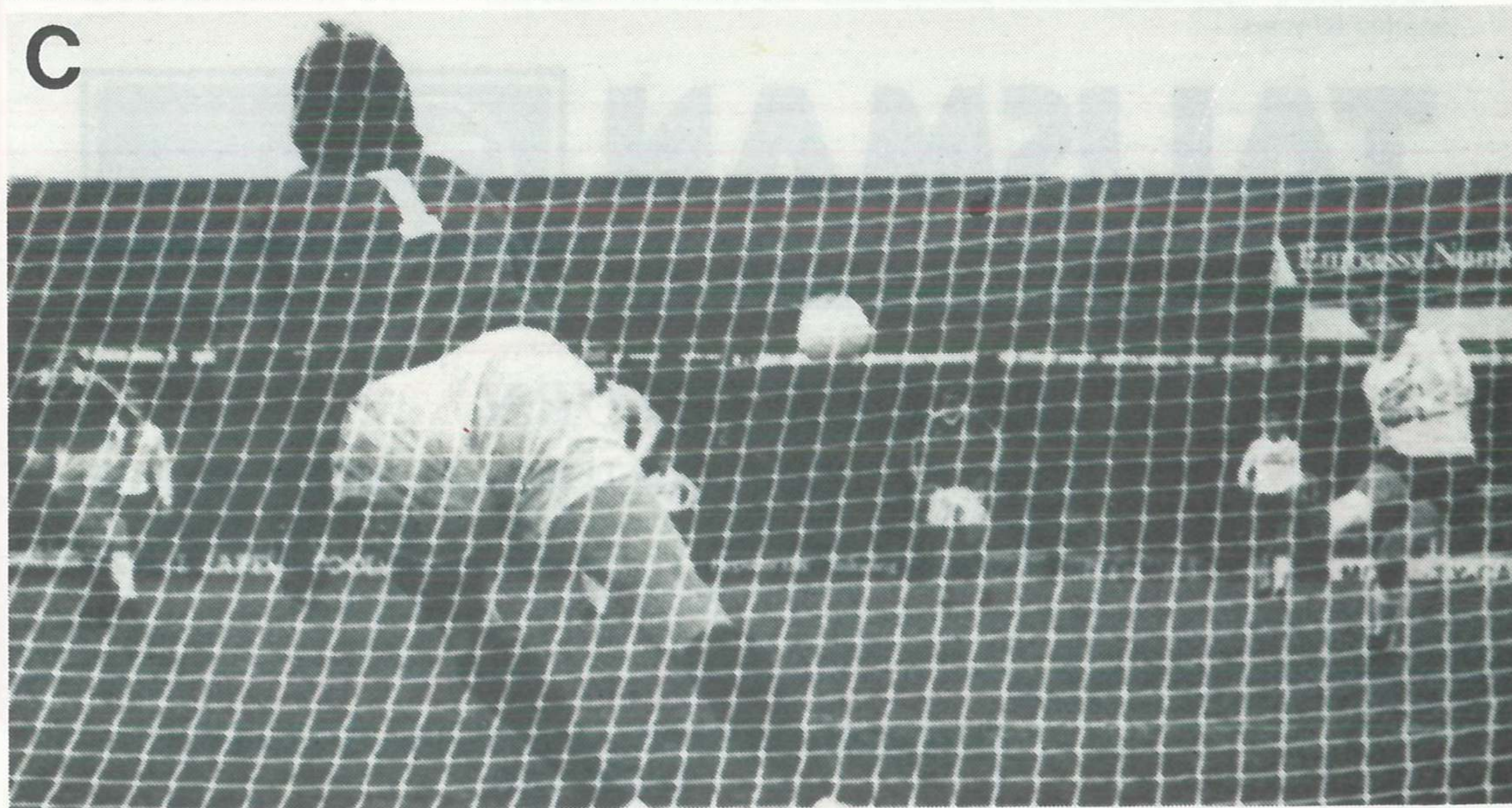
BOLTON v BRISTOL CITY

A. Wanderers' new signing Ian Brennan slips past a defender.

B. Alan Gowling in the thick of the action.

C. Alan Gowling scores from the penalty spot.

Harry McGuire (Leigh 602135)



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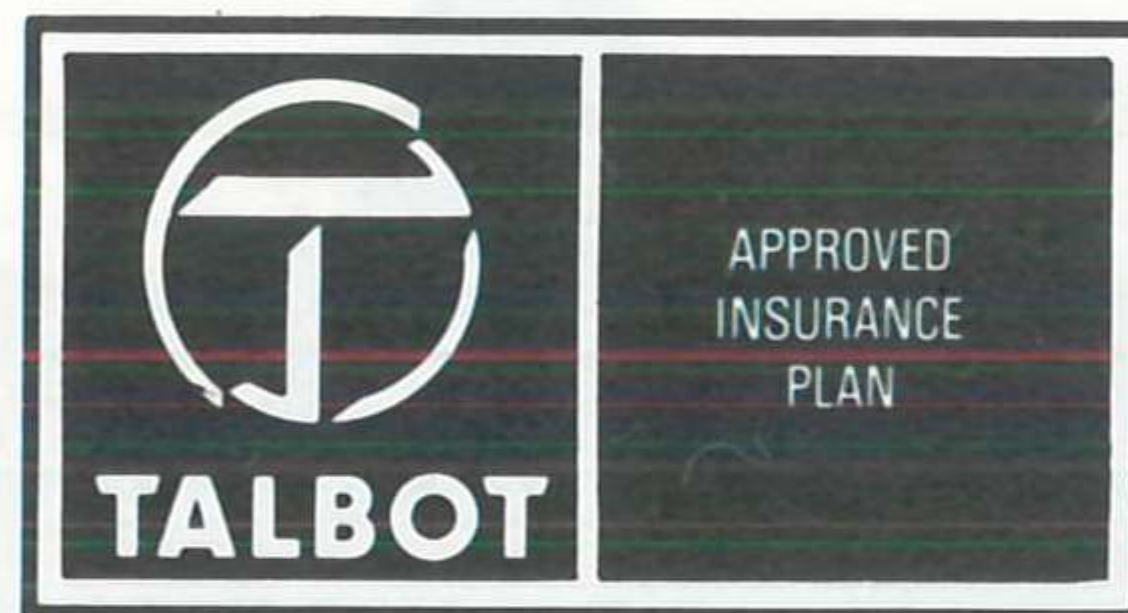
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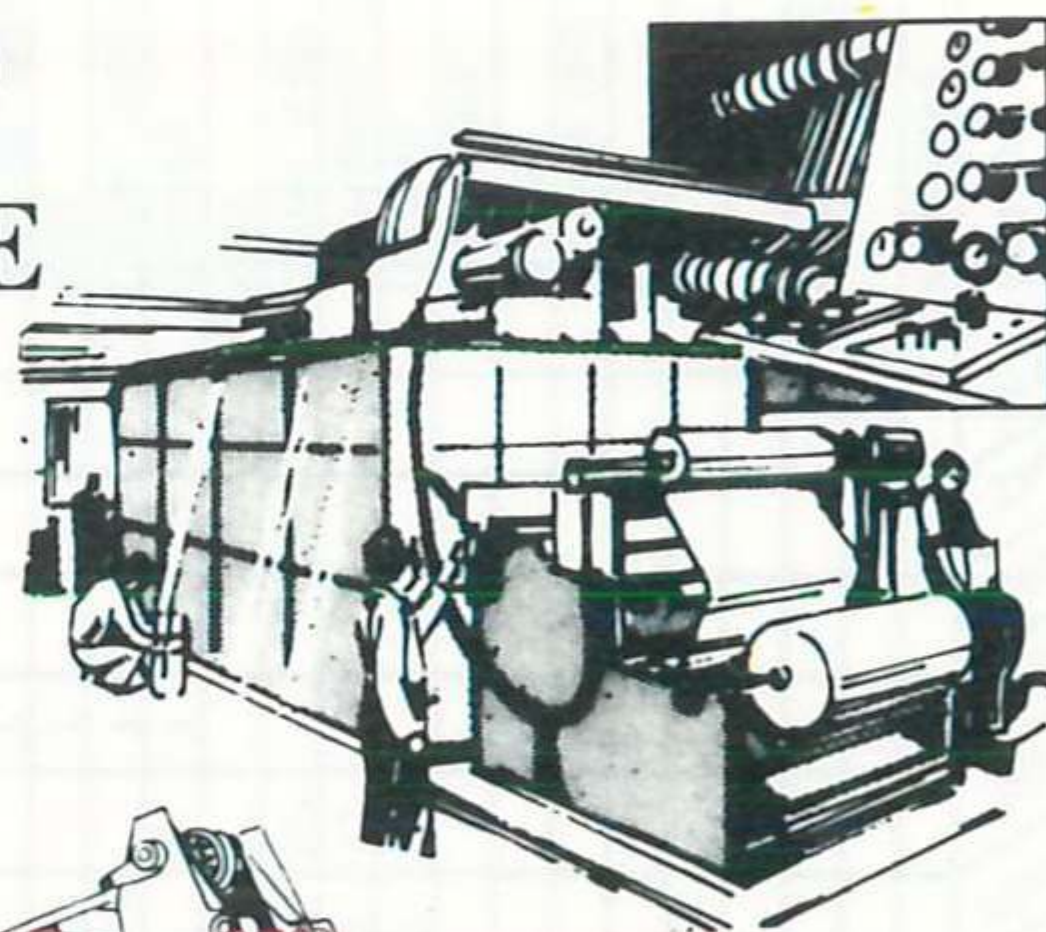
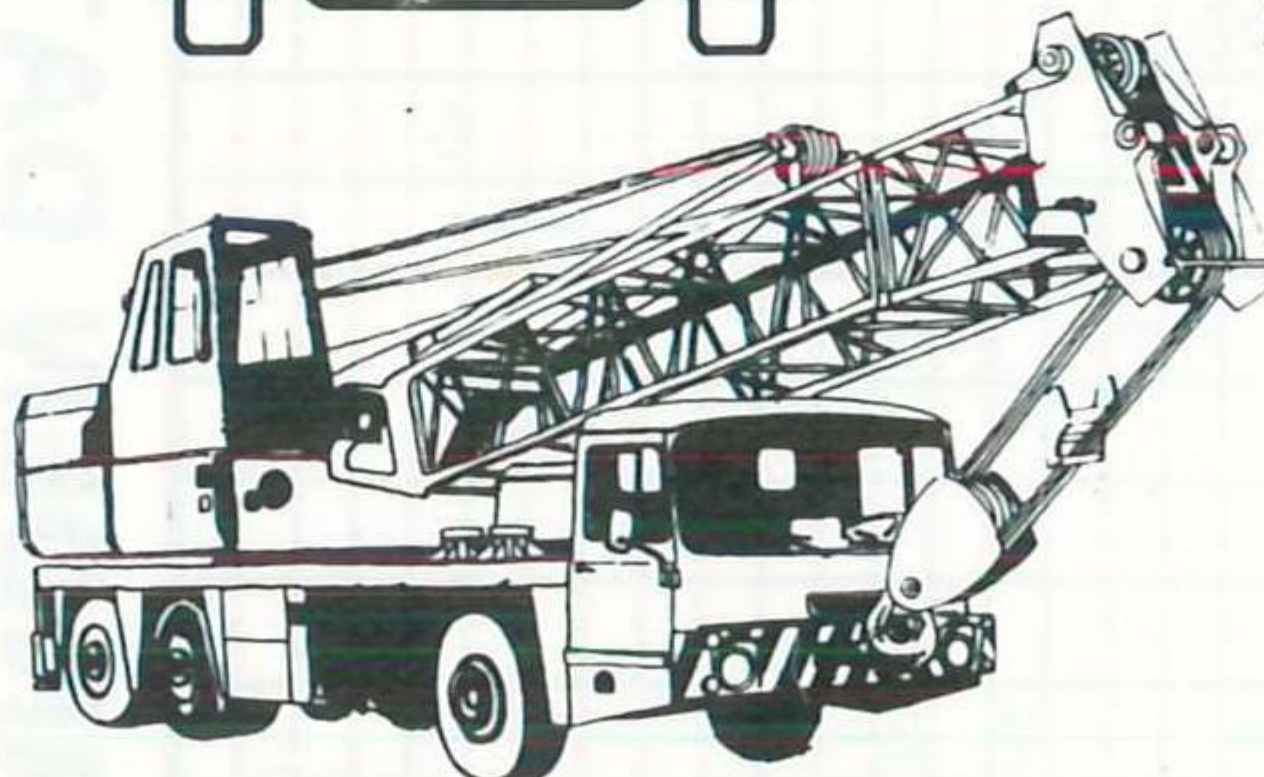
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More action BOLTON v BRISTOL CITY

A goalmouth scramble. Photo: Harry McGuire (Leigh 602135)



Facts & Figures 1980-81

HOME GAMES
IN CAPITALS

*Denotes
Sub used

		FA	Attn	Peacock	Graham	Burke	Wilson	Jones	Walsh	Gowling	Whatmore	Carter	Kidd	Cantello	Bennett	Hoggan	Nowak	Clement	McElhinney	Nicholson	Poole	Thompson	Nikolic	Reid	Moore	Thomas	Brennan	Scorers
Aug.	16	Notts County	1-2	7,459	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12												Whatmore
	19	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	0-0	15,926	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12											Kidd(3) Whatmore
	23	NEWCASTLE	4-0	11,835	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12											
	26	L.C. CRYSTAL PALACE	0-3	9,913	1	2	3	4*	5	6	7	8	9	10			11	12*										
	30	Derby County	0-1	17,378	1		3		5	6	7	8	9	10	4		11	12	2									Kidd
Sept.	2	L.C. Crystal Palace	1-2	15,536	1	3			5*	6	7	8	9	10	4		11	12*	2									Griffiths (o.g.) Gowling (pen)
	6	BRISTOL ROVERS	2-0	8,712	1	3	12*		6*	7	8	9	10	4		11	7	2	5									Walsh
	13	Cardiff	1-1	6,532	1	3	12*	5*	6	9	8	10	4			11	7	2										Whatmore
	20	SWANSEA	1-4	9,419	1	3	9		6	5	8	10	4			11	7	3	12									Cantello
	27	Oldham	1-1	10,174		2	3	12	5	6	9	8	10	4		11					1	7						Thompson, Gowling
Oct.	4	CHELSEA	2-3	11,888	2	3		5	6	9	8	10	4	4*		12					1	7	11					Carter, Kidd
	7	Shrewsbury Town	2-1	5,077	12	3	7	5	6	9	8	10	4							2	1		11*					Kidd
	11	Queens Park Rangers	1-3	8,641		3	7	5	6	9	8	11	10	4	12					2	1							Gowling
	18	BRISTOL CITY	1-1	8,988		2	11	5	6	9	12	8	10	4						2	1							Carter, Whatmore
	21	PRESTON NORTH END	2-1	10,713	2	3		5	6	11	8	9	10	4		12				3	1			7				Kidd
	25	West Ham United	1-2	25,277	2	3		5	6	11	8	9	10	4						12	1							Kidd (3), Whatmore, Hoggan, Cantello
Nov.	1	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	6-1	8,016		3		5	6	11	8	9*	10	4		12*				2	1							Hoggan
	8	Watford	1-3	11,296		3		5	5	11	8	10	4		12	9				2	1							
	11	Sheffield Wednesday	0-2	16,262	2	3	12	5	6	11	8	10				9						1	4					Hoggan
	22	GRIMSBY TOWN (1)	1-1	9,031	2	3		5	6	4	8	9	10*			11					1			7	12*			Wilson (2), Kidd
	25	NOTTS COUNTY	3-0	7,344	2		4	5	6	11	8	10			12	9			3		1							Whatmore (2)
	29	Luton Town	2-2	8,300	2		4	5	6	11	8	10			12	9			3	7	1							Whatmore, Kidd (2)
Dec.	6	ORIENT	3-1	8,228	2		4	5	6	11	8	10				9			3	7	1							Gowling (pen)
	13	Bristol City (2)	1-3	7,384	2		4	5		11	8	10				9			3	7	1							Gowling
	19	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	1-2	6,315	2	3	4	5		11	8*	10				9			6	7	1	12*						
	26	Wrexham																										
	27	BLACKBURN ROVERS																										
1981																												
Jan.	3	Nottingham Forest (FAC3)																										
	10	Grimsby Town																										
	17	DERBY COUNTY																										
	24	F.A. Cup 4																										
	31	Newcastle United																										
Feb.	7	CARDIFF CITY																										
	14	Bristol Rovers (5)																										
	21	OLDHAM ATHLETIC																										
	28	Swansea City																										
Mar.	7	Chelsea (6)																										
	14	SHREWSBURY T. (LCF)																										
	21	Preston North End																										
	28	WEST HAM UNITED																										
Apr.	4	Cambridge United																										
	11	WATFORD (SF)																										
	17																											
	18	Blackburn Rovers																										
	20	WREXHAM																										
	25	Orient																										
May	2	LUTON TOWN																										
	9	F.A. Cup Final																										

BURNDEN DATES
LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
DERBY COUNTY
SATURDAY 17th JANUARY 1981
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

(Up to and including Saturday 20th December 1980)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham United	23	11	0	1	30	8	3	6	2	9	9	34
Chelsea	23	5	4	3	19	9	6	3	2	19	13	29
Swansea City	23	7	2	2	21	9	3	7	2	13	11	29
Notts County	23	6	4	1	16	8	4	5	3	10	14	29
Orient	23	6	3	2	18	8	4	3	5	14	17	26
Sheffield Wednesday	22	10	1	0	23	6	1	3	7	8	20	26
Blackburn Rovers	22	7	3	1	17	5	2	4	5	8	14	25
Derby County	23	4	5	2	17	15	4	4	4	15	16	25
Cambridge United	23	8	1	3	18	10	3	2	6	10	20	25
Luton Town	23	5	4	2	20	14	4	2	6	11	14	24
Grimsby Town	23	5	5	1	9	3	1	5	6	11	20	22
Wrexham	23	3	4	4	11	14	4	3	5	9	10	21
Newcastle United	22	5	4	2	10	7	2	3	6	7	24	21
Queens Park Rangers	22	5	3	2	17	6	2	3	7	12	17	20
Bolton Wanderers	23	6	3	3	26	14	1	3	7	11	21	20
Watford	23	8	2	2	20	11	0	2	9	8	19	20
Shrewsbury Town	23	5	4	3	19	12	0	5	6	3	12	19
Oldham Athletic	23	4	6	2	10	6	1	3	7	7	16	19
Cardiff City	21	6	2	3	14	10	2	1	7	9	19	19
Preston North End	23	4	5	3	15	15	1	4	6	7	20	19
Bristol City	23	4	5	2	13	8	0	3	9	5	25	16
Bristol Rovers	23	1	7	4	12	14	0	3	8	6	24	12

TODAYS REFEREE

HACKETT, KEITH S. (Sheffield). Commenced refereeing in 1960 in Sheffield and then via the Yorkshire and Northern Premier Leagues progressed to the Football League line and full list. Has refereed in Northern Premier Cup Finals, and lined the 1975 Boys Club Final at Wembley. Also lined for the Finland v. Iceland game in 1976. Refereed the 1978 Debenhams Cup match. Senior Linesman F.A. Cup Final 1979; also refereed two Football League Cup Semi-Finals and an F.A. Cup Semi-Final in 1980. Married, and with two sons, he is a Sales Manager and his interests are caravanning and all sports and walking.

A666/M61 merging with M62/M63 (follow 'Stockport' signs) south to Cheadle junction (present terminal M63) with A560 (19 miles)
A560 to Stockport junction A6.
A6 via Whaley Bridge to Chapel-en-le-Frith junction with A623. (21 miles)
A623 via Peak Forest to Baslow junction with A619 (37 miles)
A619 to Chesterfield junction with A617 (52 miles)
A617 to M1 intersection at Heath (63 miles)
M1 south for 16 miles to intersection 26/26A junction with A610 (68 miles)
A610 to Nottingham (84 miles)
A610 to Nottingham (90 miles)
Nottingham Forest's ground is just over 1 1/2 miles south of the city centre near the junction of the A60 and A52. Approaching Nottingham from M1 turn right onto the Ring Road (Western Boulevard) continuing with the Ring Road to the Clifton Flyover.
Turn right off the Flyover as signposted M1, turning right again at the roundabout with the signs for Grantham down Clifton Lane and Wilford Lane to Loughborough Road where you turn left for Trent Bridge.
Forest's ground is just off Radcliffe Road before you cross Trent Bridge.

CENTRAL LEAGUE

1980-81	CENTRAL LEAGUE	F	A
Aug.	SHEFFIELD WED. Manchester United	1	2
	Coventry City	1	2
Sept.	Manchester City	1	3
	Bury	1	6
	NOTTINGHAM F. Liverpool	0	0
Oct.	LEEDS UNITED WEST BROM A. STOKE CITY	2	2
	PRESTON N.E. HUDDERSFIELD T. Blackpool	1	1
Nov.	BURNLEY MANCHESTER UNITED Sheffield W. Aston Villa Derby County	3	3
	WOLVERHAMPTON W. Sheffield United NEWCASTLE UNITED BLACKPOOL	3	3
Dec.	Derby County Leeds United DERBY COUNTY Everton	0	0
1981 Jan.	EVERTON ASTON VILLA COVENTRY CITY	3	3
	Blackburn Rovers Stoke City MANCHESTER CITY	1	1
Feb.	Newcastle United Nottingham Forest BURY LIVERPOOL	0	0
Mar.	West Bromwich A. PRESTON N.E. Huddersfield Town SHEFFIELD UNITED Burnley	1	1
Apr.	BLACKBURN ROVERS Wolverhampton W.	0	0
May		2	4

TEAM CHECK

Bolton Wanderers

- 1 Terry Poole
- 2 Mike Graham
- 3 Gerry McElhinney
- 4 Phil Wilson
- 5 Paul Jones
- 6 Ian Brennan
- 7 Peter Nicholson
- 8 Neil Whatmore
- 9 Dave Hoggan
- 10 Brian Kidd
- 11 Alan Gowling
- 12



Blackburn Rovers

- 1 John Butcher
- 2 Micky Speight
- 3 Jim Branagan
- 4 Howard Kendall
- 5 Glenn Keeley
- 6 Derek Fazackerley
- 7 Noel Brotherston
- 8 Kevin Stonehouse
- 9 John Lowey
- 10 Duncan McKenzie
- 11 Tony Parkes
- 12

Referee:

K. S. Hackett (Sheffield)

Linesmen:

A. Jones (Wirral) (Red Flag)

R. J. Millward (Stafford) (Yellow Flag)

HALF TIME SCOREBOARD

A	ARSENAL IPSWICH TOWN		
B	BIRMINGHAM CITY SUNDERLAND		
C	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION CRYSTAL PALACE		
D	LIVERPOOL LEEDS UNITED		
E	MANCHESTER CITY WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS		
F	MIDDLESBROUGH EVERTON		
G	NORWICH CITY TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR		
H	NOTTINGHAM FOREST ASTON VILLA		
I	SOUTHAMPTON LEICESTER CITY		
J	STOKE CITY COVENTRY CITY		
K	WEST BROMWICH ALBION MANCHESTER CITY		
L			
M	BRISTOL ROVERS LUTON TOWN		
N	CAMBRIDGE UNITED SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY		
O	CARDIFF CITY SWANSEA CITY		
P	CHELSEA BRISTOL CITY		
Q	NEWCASTLE UNITED DERBY COUNTY		
R	OLDHAM ATHLETIC GRIMSBY TOWN		
S	PRESTON NORTH END NOTTS. COUNTY		
T	SHREWSBURY TOWN WREXHAM		
U	WATFORD QUEENS PARK RANGERS		
V	WEST HAM UNITED ORIENT		
W	STOCKPORT COUNTY WIGAN ATHLETIC		
X	YORK CITY ROCHDALE		



Today's Match Ball is
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